

POLITICS AND THE ALLIANCE.

As the question of political action by the Alliance is now under advisement in this and other counties of the State, we copy in the present issue an editorial from the *Dakota Ruralist* of Aberdeen, Dakota, and a contribution of a correspondent to the same paper, upon this subject. We also copy an article from the *Progressive Farmer* of Raleigh, North Carolina. These papers are the Official State Organs of the States in which they are published, and we reproduce these articles, not as authoritative in any manner, but as indicating the prevailing sentiment upon the subject in those two widely separated branches of the Order, and under the unlike conditions distinguishing the northern and the southern States. In parts of our own State where the Order is strongest a like disposition to actively participate in local politics is now manifest, and the opinion is quite general that our grievances must be remedied largely through this recourse. We would not wish, if within our power, to exercise any undue influence in moulding opinion upon this subject. The matter is an important one and should be carefully considered and judiciously decided. What we say editorially, and what we quote from other sources is solely with a view of affording such information as is available, indicative of the general sentiment of the membership. We recognize the supreme importance of unity of action in whatever decision may be rendered, and nothing must be said or done to disturb the harmony and good feeling that now exists. While we have our individual opinions upon the subject, the decision of the Alliance, whatever it may be will, in the interest of that unity so absolutely essential to success, receive our most cordial endorsement and support. We believe that there are thousands of men to-day in each of the old political parties who feel the necessity of reforms that cannot be expected to be carried out by either, and who are ready at this moment to abandon their old affections if any plausible remedy for existing grievances is presented. It is urged that we should go into the primaries and by energetic and persistent efforts work a reformation in existing parties. We have tried this for the last twenty five years without success. We have the same class of party leaders that have stood at the head during all these years, and they are still as hungry as though they had never been fed at the public crib. Indeed much feeding seems to afford a constantly increasing appetite, in the gratification of which they forget the necessities, and are deaf to the demands of their constituents. Trusts and combines spring into existence upon every hand, the necessities of life are constantly increasing in price, while the luxuries are advanced beyond the reach of any except the wealthy classes. We suffer from excessive and discriminating taxation, and from the injustice of speculative markets for agricultural products, and those in authority are deaf to the demands of the people for relief. Nothing short of a civil revolution seems capable of effecting a change in the interest of

the people. The bitterness of the mighty contests for supremacy between the controlling parties in the past has not fostered that spirit which will now prompt either to surrender peacefully to the other. While thousands are ready to vote for needed reforms, it will be difficult to satisfy them that those reforms are to be secured by joining the ranks of their old political enemies. Afford them the opportunity to cut loose from their old moorings without a formal surrender of the colors under which they have so gallantly struggled heretofore, and men of all parties will unite upon the issues that are now supreme, and insure their successful triumph by overwhelming majorities. There are needed reforms in our own country that may be readily attained by the harmonious action of our people and it is of the utmost importance that the Alliance shall agree upon some plan by which the united strength of the Order may be directed to the accomplishment of the desired end, and we have faith to believe that it will be done.

THE STATE ALLIANCE EXCHANGE

We republish the constitution of the State Alliance Exchange in this issue in order that members of the Alliance who did not receive the former issue may have an opportunity to study it and become prepared to subscribe for the stock necessary to making it a success. Whenever the object and plan of the exchange are fully understood, the subscriptions have been liberal, and it is important therefore that all should understand it.

The first question that naturally arises in the mind of every member is, what is the object of the exchange and how is it expected to benefit the stockholders? This question is answered in Sec. 2 of the constitution. The principle benefit to be hoped for is in the agency "for the purchase and sale of all kinds of farm and orchard products, and general forwarding agents for all kinds of commodities." It is designed that the business management shall occupy the position between the producer of farm products and the consumer, that is now occupied by a multiplicity of speculators who have no interest in the welfare of either class, and by bringing the producer and consumer into nearer relations with each other, improve the condition of each. By dispensing with speculative intervening profits, the producer may realize better prices and the consumer buy yet cheaper than under existing conditions. There are also many commodities required by the agricultural classes that may be profitably purchased direct and furnished far below present prices. This also comes within the province of the exchange. The object, then, must be clear to every one who reads and thinks, and the importance of the movement can hardly be overestimated.

The successful establishment and maintenance of this great enterprise, like every other other successful business, requires money, and those who are personally most deeply interested in the success of the exchange are asked to voluntarily subscribe the required stock. The next most nat-

ural question arising in the minds of members, therefore, is: in what manner is this fund secured against loss? This security is provided for in sections 12 and 16 of the constitution. Each Sub-Alliance first secures itself against loss by requiring 'a sufficient bond of its trustee stockholder to cover all money raised by its members. The board of directors of the State Exchange also requires a good and sufficient bond of the treasurer, and all others who may be employed to conduct its business; and there is absolutely no danger whatever of loss to stockholders. If there is any possibility of loss to any one it is to those who give security bonds for trustees and treasurers of the Exchange and that is an individual responsibility in which the members of the Alliance have no interest except to know that it is sufficient to cover all liabilities.

Now, as has been repeatedly stated, one of the chief benefits to be derived from the organization depends upon the success of the practical business projects established through its instrumentality, and members must have more confidence in each other, and manifest less suspicion of trickery and dishonest motives if they hope to materially better their condition. All are alike interested in the success of this measure, and there should be a prompt and liberal response to the call for stock. We cannot too strongly urge the importance of this movement, or the fact that its success depends upon the action of individual members of the Alliance in all parts of the state.

The Creamery Question.

ED. ADVOCATE: Dear sir, accept thanks for copy of your paper. I notice your people are alive to the creamery enterprise, and if you will not think it impertinent, particularly for the benefit of your farmer patrons I will suggest a few pointers.

Let me say in the first place, don't lead your people to expect too much of the enterprise lest when mistakes occur or a failure to realize what they have been led to believe—they will become dissatisfied—a depreciation of stock and withdrawal of patronage follows—the rest need not be foretold. In building a creamery at this point and in running it ten months we have learned the following facts:

1st We could have built the concern, fitted it up with better machinery for several hundred dollars less money than we paid Davis & Rankin for doing it.

2nd. They put in a DeSavol separator proposed to be of 14,000 lb capacity, which failed to give satisfaction, was replaced by them with another of the same make which in a few months we had to dispose of because it had not over an 8,000 lb. capacity before the milk would sour after which the cream can't be separated.

The two Danish Westons of 16,000 lb. daily capacity (each) requires fifty per cent less steam to run both of them than it does a single 14,000 lbs. DeSavol while the former is much less liable to get out of order.

We have been to the expense of overhauling much of the creamery at considerable outlay of money. Our managers were led to believe that an

expert would be furnished for \$5 per day that would learn a green hand (that was apt at learning) in twenty days sufficiently to do as good work as the best. The falsity of this one item cost us not less than \$200. We found that a \$75 per month expert who understood his business, made us money while the other lost it.

We found that the cows fed on the grass and weeds of our prairie pastures would not furnish milk that would make cheese and butter of as fine flavor as the milk of cows east, (or any where else for that matter) fed on rich clover or blue grass pasture.

All the managers of creameries whom I have met (except Davis and Rankin) say that full cream cheese cannot be made as successfully from such milk as we get here from cows fed on our pastures, as from better feed. Milk from cows fed here on like feed fed east, will of course make equally as good product, so that our cheese and butter made during the winter when our cows are fed grain and other good food compares favorably with the eastern article.

It is preposterous to believe that our common grasses mixed with every variety of weeds, imparting as many different flavors to the milk, can be with any machinery made to produce as fine flavored cheese and butter as can be made out of milk made out of the tame pastures where every weed that could taint the milk has been removed.

If your people are led to believe that you could get an expert who from the milk of cows fed on wild pastures, can make a full cream cheese or a tub of butter that will bring as much in the eastern market as the same product in the east made from the milk of cows on their clean tame pasture, you may as well now commence now to look up an explanation. When you report sales to your company, you will need it.

There are many reasons why a good creamery, properly managed, is a good thing for both the country and town people, and no good reason why such a one is not a good thing outside of the big towns where there is a large demand for milk.

If you will either come or send a committee to look over our creamery I will on due notice, meet you at the train and will take great pleasure in showing you through our creamery and certify to your satisfaction every statement above made. In the interest of the farmers, I am, yours truly,

HENRY COMSTOCK.

Cheney, Ka. Sept. 16.

Notice to Sub-Alliances.

The regular quarterly session of the Jefferson county Alliance will assemble at Oskaloosa on Wednesday Oct. 9th at 10 o'clock a. m. All sub-Alliances should forward their report, together with a list of delegates elected to attend said meeting, to the county secretary prior to that date in order that there may be no necessity of consuming valuable time in examining credentials after the meeting of delegates. The regular annual election of county officers will take place at this meeting.

O. CHACKY

County Sec.

Meriden, Ka. Sept. 21.